



**Michele Bischof**, Chair  
**Jason Hoffman**, Vice-Chair  
**Chris Maiers**, SWIC  
**Curtis “Wally” Walser**, Deputy SWIC

**Michele Bischof**  
City of Des Moines Fire Dept.

**Eric Dau**  
Clinton County Communications

**Rob Dehnert**  
Westcom

**Blake DeRouchey**  
Iowa Homeland Security &  
Emergency Management

**Dennis Hart**  
Department of Management

**Jason Hoffman**  
Carroll County 911 Coordinator

**Chris Maiers**  
SWIC - ISICSB

**Gerard Meyers**  
Department of Public Safety

**William McLain**, Master Sergeant  
Iowa National Guard/Dept. of  
Defense

**Curtis “Wally” Walser**  
City of Cedar Rapids Fire Dept.

**Jim Wittenwyler**  
Department of Public Safety

**Bob Younie**  
Department of Transportation

**Vacant**  
Governor’s Office

#### **RIC Leaders**

**Rob Dehnert**, RIC 1 Chair  
**Jason Hoffman**, RIC 1 Vice-Chair  
**Brian Blodgett**, RIC 2 Chair  
**Joel Rohne**, RIC 2 Vice-Chair  
**Corey Trucke**, RIC 3 Chair  
**Shawn Olson**, RIC 3 Vice-Chair  
**Larry Hurst**, RIC 4 Chair  
**Mike Jensen**, RIC 4 Vice-Chair  
**Larry Smith**, RIC 5 Chair  
**Vacant**, RIC 5 Vice-Chair  
**Vacant**, RIC 6 Chair  
**Steph Coffey**, RIC 6 Vice-Chair

## **ISICSB FirstNet Broadband Committee Meeting**

Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS)  
Ole O. Roe Learning Center (Room 122)  
215 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St., Des Moines, IA 50319  
Tuesday, September 8, 2020  
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

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## **FIRSTNET MEETING MINUTES**

### **Call to Order/Conference Line**

Meeting called to order by Chair Bischof at 9:00 a.m.

Conference telephone line and GoTo Meeting was open for public listening and board members who were unable to attend.

**Committee Members Present In-Person:** None.

**Committee Members Present via Conference Line & GoTo Meeting:** Michele Bischof, Brian Blodgett, Rob Dehnert, Blake DeRouchey, Andy Flagge, Jason Hoffman, Chris Maiers, Joel Rohne, Curtis “Wally” Walser, Bob Younie

**Committee Member Regrets:** None.

**Guests on Conference Line & GoTo Meeting:** David Barnett, Dustin Blythe, Brian Cole, Ryan Fields, Kevin Ford, Mary Harp, Danny Noble, Kyle Richardson, Andy Sackreiter, Stacy Schwartz

**Committee Members Absent:** Steph Coffey, Eric Dau, Dennis Hart, Jason Hill, Larry Hurst, Mike Jensen, Gerard Meyers, William McLain, Shawn Olson, Larry Smith, Corey Trucke, Jim Wittenwyler,

**Guest Attendees:** Hollie Davidson

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## Welcome Remarks – Chair Bischof

Chair Bischof welcomed the group and introductions of those present via GoTo Meeting and the conference line were made.

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## Review Action Items from Previous Meeting

### a. Update on “Who’s on FirstNet” Database (Brian Blodgett)

- Continue to encourage agencies to sign-up on the database
- Nebraska has been added to the database
- Minnesota is interested in joining the database

### b. 911 FirstNet Host Remote Update (Blake DeRouchey)

- Delayed as a result of the derecho

### c. Update on Governor’s Economic Recovery for Iowa Working Group (Joel Rohne)

- No update

### d. Update on Power Outage Plans for FirstNet Towers (Brian Cole)

- Report to be given under AT&T report

### e. Continue Minnesota Checklist Discussion (Chair Bischof)

- Checklist developed for agencies to provide items to consider regarding communications systems
  - Should Iowa adopt a similar document?
  - The Committee opted to continue reviewing the checklist - Is the document used by any MN agencies? If so, is the evaluation a useful tool for agencies?
  - Joel Rohne to reach out to MN contacts for further feedback regarding the checklist
  - SWIC Maiers suggested incorporating items on the MN checklist with national NCSWIC-SAFECOM documents that have been developed
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## FirstNet Update (Kyle Richardson)

### a. Update Region VII

- No update
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## AT&T Update (David Barnett)

### b. AT&T Storm Response Update

- Danny Noble and Stacy Shwartz expressed that AT&T is aware of issues and gaps related to the derecho response and are working on solutions
  - Andy Sackreiter (RAN Director)
    - Voice traffic increased approximately 20%
    - Data traffic increased approximately 25%
    - Dropped calls increased 3X on the first day, decreased to 1.4X by the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, returned to normal range by day 5
    - Any 911 calls will still be answered during an outage by routing the call to a neighboring site signal
  - Brian Cole (Local RAN)
    - 2 sites completely destroyed – Grand Mound and Malcolm
    - 103 portable generators deployed
    - Deployed 3 FirstNet COLTS – Benton, Marshalltown, Grand Mound
    - Timeline for restoration of sites: 168 sites down on 8/10, 89 sites on 8/11, 26 sites on 8/14, 14 sites on 8/18, 4 sites on 8/21, 1 site on 8/24 (all sites restored by 9/1)
  - Ryan Fields (FirstNet's Response Operations Group)
    - The FirstNet Response Operations Group developed for emergency responses and consists of several different level of agency representatives and other stakeholders who determine emergency response needs such as the derecho
    - Regarding the derecho, a dedicated meteorologist was on staff and alerted FirstNet approximately 2-3 hours ahead of when the derecho was to occur with damaging winds
    - Danny Noble was advised immediately of the damaging wind warnings and was in Iowa reaching out to agencies regarding their needs throughout the derecho
    - The Network Disaster Recovery Team was also alerted immediately regarding possible SATCOLT deployables
    - Currently there are approximately 30 Iowa FirstNet sites currently have permanent generators – planning to place 134 generators in 2021 at Iowa sites
    - The Committee requests a map depicting the specific locations of the current and future generators
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## SWIC Report – (Chris Maiers)

SWIC Maiers reports that he continues to answer agency questions regarding issues related to the derecho.

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## New Business

### a. Stakeholder Document (Chair Bischof)

- Tabled until October 2020 FirstNet Committee meeting

## Questions/Comments

Discussion took place regarding the cell phone, power, and internet issues seen throughout the derecho and the storm response period. Conversations will be taking place with cell phone companies, Utilities Board, and other pertinent stakeholders and agencies to address issues and better responses in the future.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding generators, FirstNet coverage, and solutions to future emergency responses.

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## New Action Items

1. Update on “Who’s on FirstNet” database (Brian Blodgett)
  2. 911 FirstNet Host Remote Update (Blake DeRouchey)
  3. Update on Minnesota Checklist (Chair Bischof)
  4. Update on Governor’s Economic Recovery for Iowa Working Group (Joel Rohne)
  5. Continue discussion regarding stakeholder document
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## Next Meeting

**Tuesday, October 13, 2020 @ 9:00 am**

**Location:** GoTo Meeting Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/295334677>

**Conference Line:** +1 (571) 317-3122

**Access Code:** 295-334-677

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## Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.